MINISTRY OF ATTORNEY GENERAL

# COURT SERVICES BRANCH

## REPORT OF THE 2001/2002 FISCAL YEAR

May 31, 2002

Court Services Branch

# 2001/2002 Report

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# SECTION I

# SUMMARY OF THE YEAR

## SUMMARY

Justice is the outcome of several processes managed and operated by multiple agencies with diverse mandates. Court Services Branch is the administrative hub for many justice programs and it provides general infrastructure support and value-added service to all justice participants including the judiciary, the accused, litigants, Crown counsel and private bar, corrections, victims, police and individuals. To serve the court and consumers of justice, the Branch provides leadership in ensuring continuity of justice processes, and since the role of the other participants is narrowly defined, the Branch is in a position to take the broad view and lead integration of the operational interdependencies among agencies.

Court Services Branch is responsible for the delivery of all court administration services in British Columbia. These consist of registry and trial support for the Provincial Court, Supreme Court and Court of Appeal, prisoner custody and escort, courthouse security and the provision and maintenance of courthouse facilities.

The Branch is responsible for supporting timely and equitable access to the court system. As a servant of the court, it is responsible for providing administrative services to the judiciary. Court administrators throughout the Branch fulfill this mandate in a manner that is respectful of an independent judiciary. The Branch responds to and supports court events that are scheduled by the judiciary, and provides information to parties and agencies in relation to these events and processes.

The Branch has three major functional areas of responsibility:

- **Case documentation and adjudication support.** This includes case initiation (and fee collection), file and exhibit management, court clerking, court recording and transcripts, interpreter services and the preparation and dissemination of court orders.

- **Court and courthouse security.** This involves the physical security of the Judiciary, juries, staff, court participants and others in and around the courthouse.

- **Court order enforcement.** This includes the holding and transportation of prisoners, the collection of court fines, and the civil bailiff process.

The chief administrator of court services has duties specified in the *Supreme Court Act* and the *Provincial Court Act*. These include a reporting relationship with the Chief Justice of the Court of Appeal, the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, and the Chief Judge of the Provincial Court, in addition to being responsible to the Attorney General for services related to planning administration and operations.

Highlights of the 2001/02 operations were:

- The change in government during the summer of 2001.

- Court volumes as measured by new cases increased by 7.7 per cent. The biggest increases in new cases occurred for traffic (28.5 per cent [1]), Appeal civil (14.6 per cent) and by-law (9.4 per cent) matters. The biggest decreases occurred for small claims (5.3 per cent), Supreme criminal (3.7 per cent) and youth (2.4 per cent) matters.

  1. The increase in new traffic cases was, we believe, the result of a one-time catch up entry of data onto JUSTIN. It is expected that there will be no such anomaly in future fiscal years.

- Court volumes as measured by court hours decreased by 4.2 per cent. There were decreases for all court matters, with the biggest decreases occurring for youth (10.4 per cent), Supreme criminal (7.5 per cent) and small claims (6.4 per cent) matters.

- Continuing the current trend for adult criminal cases, there were 1,309 (1.2 per cent) fewer new adult criminal cases than completed cases. There were also 408 (2.7 per cent) fewer new youth cases than completed cases.

- There was a 7.5 per cent increase in the number of adult criminal cases with future scheduled appearances but a 4.2 per cent decrease in the number of youth cases with future scheduled appearances.

- The average number of appearances per adult criminal completed case decreased from 5.8 to 5.7 (1.7 per cent) while the average number of appearances per youth completed case remained constant at 4.9.

## MAJOR PROJECTS

### 1. Justice Information System (JUSTIN)

JUSTIN is a multi-agency provincial Criminal case-tracking and participant-tracking system. In development since the first pilot in 1995, the rollout to all locations in the Province was completed in July, 2001. All court and Crown offices are using JUSTIN, as well as trial coordinators and other agencies involved in the criminal process.

The benefits of JUSTIN include a Province-wide common database accessible from any court location, efficiencies gained from computerization, such as one-time data entry, and automatic forms generation on demand.

Since the rollout, the JUSTIN Courts Implementation Team has been replaced with a three-person JUSTIN Courts Management Group that

- operates the JUSTIN Courts Help Desk to address user issues and problems;
- tracks enhancement and modification requests;
- coordinates staff training; and,
- represents Court Services at inter-agency meetings.

JUSTIN continues to evolve, making changes to reflect changes in the way Court Services does business, to increase efficiencies, to reflect legislative changes and to transfer data between justice agencies.

In 2002/03, JUSTIN will focus on changes resulting from the *Youth Criminal Justice Act* and on continuing to build links to the police PRIME program. Future enhancements will include an in-court quick data entry module including exhibits management, an electronic Record of Proceedings and scheduling improvements to support videoconference use.

## 2. Electronic Justice Services Project (EJSP) and Civil Case Tracking and Registry Information Tracking System (RITS)

During the past year, the Branch and the Judiciary have worked together to research and develop policies and rules regarding the electronic access of civil court records. For the first part of the year, this work was conducted in conjunction with the development of the Court Services Online (CSO) project, a component of EJSP. The CSO project was developing a web-based application for filing court documents by allowing the legal community to file forms and access case records over the internet 24 hours a day. Phase 1 of EJSP was successful concluded in the fall of 2001. Although EJSP has been indefinitely postponed, work on the policies and rules for electronic filing and access to court information will continue outside the EJSP as part of the Ministry's ongoing policy development process with the Judiciary.

In the past year, the Branch and Judiciary have researched and developed a draft Electronic Access Policy. This is a broad based policy that covers matters such as:

- the nature of access to court records as defined by statutory provisions and court rules
- security and authentication issues for filing and accessing documents and
- service changes for filing and accessing documents.

In addition to this policy, work has begun on issues relating to the commercial use of court records through an electronic system and the e-filing of affidavits and exhibits. A first draft of a court rule for an electronic filing pilot project has been prepared and will be revised, as necessary, as issues around affidavits, exhibits and other matters are developed.

The civil case tracking system is a central core application that is fundamental to the efficient operation of Court Services. Over the past six months RITS has been migrated as the civil case tracking program for use in all court registries across the Province. This has established one case tracking system for civil and has migrated all data to a standard database format. The new version was introduced with minimal centralized training, which did not include business standards. Business procedure standards are being considered as a future initiative. Over forty court registry locations have been converted to the new system. This investment in the migration of RITS has positioned the Ministry to reduce maintenance costs for annual changes to multiple civil systems in order to respond to ongoing legislative changes.

In alignment with our vision for the future of the courts, next year's plans include migrating RITS to newer technologies that can be better supported and which enables the Ministry to move forward in its plans for an integrated civil justice suite. The current environment exposes the Ministry to operational risks, such as the reduced ability to provide support, consolidate provincial statistics on case load and implement standard business procedures. The Ministry has a comprehensive plan for replacement of this key component, including the introduction of electronic services and the integration of other components of the civil portfolio.

### 3. Electronic Access to Court Records

Since its implementation, requests for electronic access to JUSTIN have been received from a wide variety of agencies and organizations. All applicants are required to submit a JUSTIN Electronic Access Request to the JUSTIN Electronic Access and Security (EAS) Committee. This Committee membership comprises criminal justice agencies, the Judiciary, Information Technology Services Division, and other agencies or organizations which control or have shared management of the information in JUSTIN. It evaluates applications in order to ensure that electronic access requests are permissible by law and policy and that any required system modifications consider the business requirements of all parties. The Judiciary has the sole authority to approve electronic access to, and disclosure of, court records.

During the past year, the Ministry of Attorney General and the British Columbia Judiciary have worked together to research and develop policies and rules regarding the electronic access of civil court records. For the first part of the year, this work was conducted in conjunction with the development of the Court Services Online (CSO) project, a component of the Electronic Justice Services Project (EJSP). Although EJSP has been indefinitely postponed, work on the policies and rules for electronic filing and access to court information will continue outside the EJSP as part of the Ministry's ongoing policy development process with the Judiciary.

In the past year, the Ministry and Judiciary have researched and developed a draft Electronic Access Policy. In addition to this policy, work has begun on issues relating to the commercial use of court records through an electronic system and the electronic filing of affidavits and exhibits. A first draft of a court rule for an electronic filing pilot project has been prepared and will be revised, as necessary, as issues around affidavits, exhibits and other matters are developed.

The legal, policy and technical expertise of the JUSTIN EAS Committee ensures that all of the implications regarding the requested electronic access to JUSTIN are identified when an electronic access application is being considered.

## 4. Criminal Caseflow Management (CCFM)

Criminal Caseflow Management is a court reform developed and led by the Provincial Court Judiciary. The CCFM rules were made pursuant to section 482 of the *Criminal Code*. CCFM rules have been completely phased in all 13 Judicial Districts.

The primary goals of CCFM are to ensure that:

- events in court occur when they are scheduled to occur; and,
- Crown and defence have had meaningful discussions at an early phase of the process.

There are significantly fewer cases pending and their age in the system has decreased dramatically. The decline in the number of trials scheduled points to the success of the Initial Appearance and the Arraignment Hearing processes. Because the court is setting fewer trial dates, there are fewer collapses and adjournments on the day of trial.

Cases that require a trial still take about the same number of days to complete and continue to average about 7 per cent of completed cases. Average appearances per completed case is stable. Completed cases and average days to completion for completed cases are down.

We are continuing to monitor the effects of the CCFM rules and procedures in consultation with the Provincial Court and Criminal Justice Branch.

## 5. New Federal Youth Legislation

The *Youth Criminal Justice Act* (YCJA) will replace the *Young Offenders Act (Canada)* in April 2003. YCJA is a component of the federal government's Youth Justice Renewal Strategy. YCJA focuses on:

- Crime prevention;
- Holding young people accountable;
- Rehabilitation; and
- Long-term protection of the public.

During 2001/02, the Branch began to prepare for the coming into force of YCJA by:

- Participating in inter-ministry committees on implementation and policy development;
- Making changes to JUSTIN;
- Revising current youth court forms and designing new ones to support the legislation;
- Working toward training, change management, and site implementation strategies; and
- Developing a new Youth Justice Court manual.

## 6. Traffic Ticket Dispute Process

Judicial Justices of the Peace (JJPs) currently hear 95% of all traffic ticket disputes. The number of traffic ticket disputes for which the disputant and/or the prosecutor fail to appear averages 5% but ranges as high as 20% in some locations. With a view to streamlining the hearing of violation ticket (primarily traffic ticket) disputes and reducing the incidence of failures to appear, the Branch has developed a proposal whereby:

- disputants may apply to the court in writing for a decision by the JJP regarding fine reductions and extensions of time to pay;
- enforcement officers may submit their evidence in writing and therefore may not need to appear in court; and,
- the fine is reduced if the defendant pleads guilty and pays the fine within 30 days.

Complex legal issues such as applications under the *Constitutional Questions Act* will not be heard in traffic court, but would be heard by a Provincial Court Judge.

## 7. Municipal By-law Dispute Reform

The Branch is proposing new community-based forums to hear disputes arising from less serious by-law infractions, such as parking or noxious weed violations. This forum would be completely separate from the Provincial Court and would be capable only of imposing a monetary levy. Serious by-law infractions, where a substantial fine or jail term is sought, would continue to be heard by a judge of the Provincial Court. A discussion paper on this issue will be released in the summer of 2002 to solicit opinions from the public.

## 8. Fax Filing

The fax filing project will provide an alternative to filing, in person or by mail, of certain Supreme Court Civil and Provincial Court Small Claims and Family court documents, allowing litigants and counsel to file from their office or home. The pilot project, scheduled to begin in the autumn of 2002, will focus on those areas affected by the amalgamations and closures of courthouses. If, following an evaluation, the project is successful, fax filing could become more broadly available throughout the province.

Implementation will require the use of credit cards (not previously accepted by our Branch) as a means of payment for statutory fees, and a fax filing fee to offset the additional costs of processing faxed submissions. Judicial participation in the development of Judicial Practice Directives will enable the pilot. Appropriate Rules of Court will be developed if the pilot is successful.

## 9. Videoconferencing

Videoconferencing enables improved access to justice services, improved service cost effectiveness and increased safety in courthouses and during escorts. The technology is used for diverse purposes in criminal, civil and family matters, when approved or ordered by a judge.

Over the past three years, there has been rapid growth in the number of sites equipped for videoconferencing. As of April, 2002, there are 62 units in 28 courthouses and 10 correctional centres. Most courthouse equipment is portable, can be used in many courtrooms and other rooms within each building and is shared by Provincial Court and Supreme Court.

The Branch's vision for court videoconferencing is: "videoconferencing is a regular part of daily operations which will be used whenever appropriate, to reduce or avoid movement of prisoners, witnesses and judges and to expedite the timely progress of cases".

## 10. Court Consolidation

On January 17, 2002, the Attorney General announced the closure of 23 of the 68 staffed courthouses effective June 1, 2002, and that Delta would be amalgamated with the new Richmond court effective December 1, 2002. Most of the closing locations were one room courthouses that were poorly utilized.

The closing of these locations is anticipated to save $6.9 million and 70 FTEs from the Branch's expenditures on an annual basis. Since the announcement, the Branch has had discussions with a number of municipal governments concerning alternatives to a fully staffed court facility, including circuit courts and videoconferencing.

The Law Society has filed a petition in the Supreme Court to stop the closures. The petition claims that the decision and method chosen to close the courthouses were outside of the constitutional authority of the government, as the Provincial Court Judiciary was not appropriately consulted.

# SECTION II

# ORGANIZATION AND STAFF

## Organization and Staff

### 1. Lower Mainland Reorganization

On October 15, 2001, the structure of the Court Services Branch was changed. Previously, there were five geographic regions with court administration and sheriff services in an integrated structure. The reorganization reduced the number of regional directors to four and created the position of Executive Director of Sheriff Services. The latter position includes policy and training responsibility for all sheriff staff, and direct operational authority for all sheriffs in the lower mainland (approximately 60 per cent of the total).

This new structure is providing more policy focus on sheriff and security issues, and a more integrated approach to court administration in the lower mainland.

### 2. Staff Appreciation

Staff Appreciation Awards are an important element in the process by which the Branch recognizes outstanding achievement during the year. In 2001/02, awards were presented, in the form of framed Joe Wilson prints or cards, to the following 28 recipients:

| | |
|---|---|
| Janice Alexander | Registry Reorganization Project |
| Stella Au-Young | Organizing staff banquet |
| Mark Beaulieu | JUSTIN Implementation |
| Linnea Bennett | Contribution to Courts - retirement |
| Ruth Blomgren | JUSTIN Implementation |
| Dan Chiddell | JC Project |
| Margaret Cormier | JUSTIN Implementation |
| Georgina Daniels | JUSTIN Implementation |
| Virginia Day | JUSTIN Implementation |
| Annette Duben | Registry Reorganization Project |
| Griff Hall | JUSTIN Implementation |
| Dave Hanna | CITS |
| Jim Kurtz | JUSTIN Implementation |
| Hazel Lew | JUSTIN Implementation |
| Marsha McGlashan | JUSTIN Implementation |
| Arnold Parlee | Pilot for Transporting Prisoners and Staff |
| Joanne Pitzel | Registry Reorganization Project |
| Bill Price | Contribution to Courts - retirement |
| Kevin Purdy | JUSTIN Implementation |
| Gord Ryall | JUSTIN Implementation |
| Marg Sorensen | Amendments to *Provincial Court Act* |
| Diane Spani | JUSTIN Implementation |
| Debbie Spouler | JUSTIN Implementation |
| Doris St. Germain | Contribution to Courts - retirement |

| | |
|---|---|
| Elliot Trueman | JUSTIN Implementation |
| Kristine Trueman | JUSTIN Implementation |
| Cecelia Wan | Organizing staff banquet |
| Judi Woodcock | JUSTIN Implementation |

# SECTION III

# SHERIFF SERVICES

## SHERIFF SERVICES

There are approximately 480 full and part-time sheriff staff who provide court security and transport prisoners in the province. The August, 1999 report of the Auditor General identified the need to improve training and standards. To enhance security, standards and program management, on October 1, 2001, lower mainland court administration was amalgamated into one region and the Sheriff Services Division was created. The Executive Director, Sheriff Services has direct responsibility for lower mainland Sheriff Operation, which represents approximately 60 per cent of court activity, and has provincial authority over sheriff policy, standards and best practices.

### Air India Trial

A new high security courtroom was constructed at the Vancouver Law Courts to accommodate the Air India bombing trial. Since the trial is complex, an integrated trial management process with representatives of the various stakeholders has been established and an integrated security plan has been developed. Enhanced security measures and training programs, developed for the Air India trial, form a legacy which will be delivered to sheriffs across the province.

### Training and Development

1. **Firearms**: The firearm transition program to the 9mm pistol and provincial course of fire standard was completed and the annual requalification program implemented. Only about 13 staff have failed the transition and remediation program. Approximately 960 student training days are provided annually to maintain firearm standards through provincially certified branch instructors.

2. **Control Tactics:** The training goal set for 2001 was 100 deputies however, due to Air India preparations, additional deputies were trained and by year end, approximately 210 sheriffs completed the refresher representing approximately 600 student training days.

3. **TASER:** The TASER pilot program deployed 24 Tasers in 13 sites with 40 staff receiving operator training. The interim evaluation has been conducted and the final evaluation is underway. A multi year implementation plan is being developed and it is being proposed to expand the Taser program to all sheriff sites in 2002/03.

4. **High Security Training:** The British Columbia Emergency Response Management System (BCERMS) unified the command structure and the related operational planning tool is a centerpiece for management and leadership training. The following training was developed and delivered in support of high security trial management:

    - BCERMS/Command planning;
    - Generic High Security Trial planning manual;
    - Operational Planning Software tool;
    - Level 1 and 2 advanced escorts;

- Crowd Management;
- Portal search procedures.

5. **DSER Program:** Two Deputy Sheriff Employment Readiness programs were delivered at the JIBC and the curriculum was reviewed and updated. A two-week practicum was added to the program and the evaluation of the practicum was extremely positive both from a supervisory and from a student perspective.

6. **Competency Project:** A competency based review was conducted to review the job skills and tools required by entry level deputies and at the other levels as they progress through the ranks. A task analysis has been completed and will provide the benchmarks for a comprehensive curriculum review of the training program.

7. **Instructor Development:** Work commenced to developing an assessment and screening model to establish a common core instructor program that may be applied to all areas of the Branch.

# SECTION IV

# FACILITIES

## Facilities

### 1. Chilliwack Law Courts

Construction of the new Chilliwack Law Courts will be completed in May, 2002. This new combined Supreme and Provincial Court facility will commence operations on May 27, 2002. The Chilliwack Five Corners Project, a public-private partnership involving the Ministry, BCBC, the City of Chilliwack, and the Developer (Van Maren Construction Group), will be officially opened by the Attorney General, Mayor of Chilliwack and Chilliwack MLAs on May 31, 2002. The Project also included construction of a public square and clock tower, and an office building that accommodates offices of Crown Counsel and Family Justice, along with the Community Corrections office and a Chilliwack community development office.

### 2. Sechelt Courthouse

Construction of the new Sechelt Courthouse and RCMP Detachment building is underway, with completion scheduled for December, 2002. The facility is being constructed by the District of Sechelt. The Provincial Court facility and associated Crown counsel office will be leased by the ministry.

### 3. Richmond Courthouse

Construction of the new Richmond Provincial Court facility is underway, with completion scheduled for February, 2003. The new courthouse will consolidate the two existing Richmond court facilities, and also accommodate the family, civil and small claims court load from Delta. The project involves the renovation of an existing City of Richmond building, and the city will lease space to the ministry for the court and associated Crown counsel office.

# SECTION V

# FINANCIAL SUMMARY

# COURT SERVICES BRANCH
# 2001/02 FTE AND OPERATING EXPENDITURES
## May 31, 2002

## PART 1: BUDGET VS YEAR-END ACTUALS BY STOB

| | DESCRIPTION | DELEGATED BUDGET (1) | YEAR END ACTUALS (2) | VARIANCE AMOUNT (3) |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | *a* | *b* | *c = a - b* |
| **FTEs** | | **1,352.00** | **1,341.00** | **11.00** |
| STOB | **SALARIES AND BENEFITS** | | | |
| 50 | BASE SALARIES AND OVERTIME | 54,822,116 | 55,870,685 | (1,048,569) |
| 51 | SUPPLEMENTARY SALARY COSTS | 826,029 | 1,070,069 | (244,040) |
| 52 | EMPLOYEE BENEFITS | 11,376,984 | 11,623,468 | (246,484) |
| | **OPERATING COSTS** | | | |
| 55 | BOARDS, COMM. & COURTS FEES/EXPENSES | 1,891,748 | 2,022,430 | (130,682) |
| 57 | PUBLIC SERVANT TRAVEL | 1,496,283 | 1,678,583 | (182,300) |
| 60 | PROF SERVICES OPER. & REGULATORY | 1,901,906 | 2,033,625 | (131,719) |
| 63 | INFORMATION SYSTEMS - OPERATING | 1,872,876 | 2,688,769 | (815,893) |
| 65 | OFFICE AND BUSINESS EXPENSES | 3,001,191 | 3,059,436 | (58,245) |
| 67 | INFORM ADVERTISING & PUBLICATIONS | 65,000 | 71,243 | (6,243) |
| 68 | STATUTORY ADVERTISING & PUBLICATIONS | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 69 | UTILITIES, MATERIALS & SUPPLIES | 875,042 | 912,281 | (37,239) |
| 70 | OPERATING EQUIPMENT & VEHICLES | 1,497,760 | 1,137,767 | 359,993 |
| 73 | AMORTIZATION EXPENSE | 3,849,000 | 4,613,284 | (764,284) |
| 75 | BUILDING OCCUPANCY CHARGES | 54,542,000 | 53,239,708 | 1,302,292 |
| | **GRANTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS** | | | |
| 76 | GRANTS | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 78 | CONTRIBUTIONS | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 8110 | TRANSFERS BETWEEN PGT & FUNDS | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 84 | INTEREST COSTS | 65 | 436 | (371) |
| 85 | **OTHER EXPENDITURES** | 118,000 | 93,141 | 24,859 |
| | **RECOVERIES** | | | |
| 8610 | RECOVERIES BETWEEN PGT & FUNDS | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 88 | RECOVERIES WITHIN GOVERNMENT | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 89 | RECOVERIES - EXTERNAL TO THE CRF | (1,974,000) | (656,812) | (1,317,188) |
| **TOTAL** | | 136,162,000 | 139,458,113 | (3,296,113) |

**FOOTNOTES:**

(1) Budget as delegated by the DM to Court Services, September 7, 2001.
Reflects internal stob reallocations made in ADM delegation to Regions.
Does not reconcile by stob to FMR due to external budget loading restrictions.
Blue Book budget was $137,979,000.

(2) Year-end FTE actuals can not be reconciled or explained due to the absence of pay period detail reports after pay period 23.

(3) See $ variance explanations on next page.

## COURT SERVICES BRANCH
## 2001/02 FTE AND OPERATING EXPENDITURES
## May 31, 2002

## PART 2: MAJOR CAUSES OF VARIANCE

| | | $.000's |
|---|---|---|
| **A)** | **PRESSURES:** | |
| | 1. April 1/01 salary rate increase not funded | (817) |
| | 2. BCGEU grid adjustments & benefits not funded | (405) |
| | 3. Other staffing pressures | (236) |
| | 4. Jury & Interpreter fees & expenses | (130) |
| | 5. Training travel | (192) |
| | 6. Transcripts | (141) |
| | 7. EJSP project | (537) |
| | 8. PC Leasing initiative | (159) |
| | 9. Voice telecommunications & videoconferencing | (195) |
| | 10. Radio equipment repairs & replacement | (99) |
| | 11. Vehicle operations (stob 70 & 73) | (414) |
| | 12. Municipal Bylaw hearing recoveries not achievable | (800) |
| | 13. Road Safety Initiative Recoveries not credited to branch | (314) |
| | 14. Road Safety Initiative Recovery program cancelation Dec/01 | (106) |
| | 15. Air India Trial not budgeted | (441) |
| | 16. Other misc. funding pressures | (92) |
| | sub-total: | **(5,078)** |
| **B)** | **OFFSETS:** | |
| | 1. Amortization actuals less than budget | 121 |
| | 2. Defer MOE program | 567 |
| | 3. BOC O&M savings | 335 |
| | 4. BOC minor project delays | 759 |
| | sub-total: | **1,782** |
| **NET VARIANCE:** | | **(3,296)** |

## CIVIL FILING FEES REVENUE
## FISCAL 1998/99 TO 2002/03
(reported in millions of dollars)

| REVENUE DESCRIPTION | 1998/99 ACTUAL | 1999/2000 ACTUAL | 2000/01 ACTUAL | 2001/02 ACTUAL | 2002/03 PROJECTION |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 4386 (51610) Initiation Fees | 12.8 | 13.0 | 12.5 | 12.8 | 13.9 |
| 4387 (51612) Submissions/Documentation Fees | 10.0 | 10.1 | 9.9 | 9.5 | 10.5 |
| 4388 (51613) Divorce Fees | 2.3 | 2.3 | 2.4 | 2.5 | 2.9 |
| 4390 (51616) Miscellaneous Court Fees | 2.4 | 2.4 | 2.1 | 2.4 | 2.3 |
| 4392 (52597) Sheriff Fees | 1.0 | 1.3 | 1.3 | 1.3 | 1.3 |
| 4532 (52674) Exam Room Rentals | 1.8 | 1.8 | 1.5 | 2.3 | 1.6 |
| **CIVIL FEES (excluding Probate Fees)** | **30.3** | **30.9** | **29.7** | **30.8** | **32.5** |
| 4389 (51614) Probate Fees | 27.2 | 24.7 | 27.1 | 29.4 | 28.7 |
| **TOTAL CIVIL REVENUES** | **57.5** | **55.6** | **56.8** | **60.2** | **61.2** |
| **TOTAL ESTIMATED CIVIL EXPENDITURES** | **55.0** | **54.0** | **54.0** | **57.0** | **57.0** |
| **REVENUE AS A PERCENTAGE OF ESTIMATED CIVIL EXPENDITURES** | | | | | |
| Civil Fees (excluding Probate Fees) | 55.1% | 57.2% | 55.0% | 54.0% | 57.0% |
| Probate Fees | 49.5% | 45.7% | 50.2% | 51.6% | 50.4% |
| **ESTIMATED COST RECOVERY LEVEL** | **104.5%** | **103.0%** | **105.2%** | **105.6%** | **107.4%** |

**NOTES:**

1) Estimated Civil Expenditures are based on cost allocations for supreme civil and provincial small claims expenditures.
Criminal and provincial family are not included as cost recoverable programs.

2) Cost allocations for 1998/99, 1999/00, 2000/01and 2001/02 are based on actual court hours for these programs.

3) 2002/03 Estimated Civil Expenditures are based on cost allocation of budgeted expenditures and actual court hours for 2001/02.

4) Fiscal 1999/00, 2000/01, 2001/02 and 2002/03 Sheriff Fees are reported gross which includes $600,000 civil jury cost recovery per annum.

5) There was a four percent global fee increase (excluding sheriff and probate) and other varied increases, May 1, 1998.

Prepared by Fran Sund

# SECTION VI

# STATISTICS

## Court Services Branch Eight Year Comparison
## Court Hours and New Cases
## 1994/95 - 2001/02

| | Court Level and Division | Fiscal Year 1994/95 | 1995/96 | 1996/97 | 1997/98 | 1998/99 | 1999/00 | 2000/01 | 2001/02 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Court Hours | Appeal Court Hours | 3,128 | 3,033 | 3,276 | 2,784 | 2,659 | 2,233 | 2,663 | 2,462 |
| | Supreme Criminal Hours | 21,786 | 22,025 | 23,312 | 22,097 | 20,679 | 20,500 | 21,144 | 19,557 |
| | Supreme Civil Hours | 42,236 | 44,789 | 44,140 | 43,633 | 45,782 | 43,076 | 39,683 | 39,278 |
| | Total Supreme Court Hours | 64,021 | 66,814 | 67,452 | 65,729 | 66,461 | 63,576 | 60,827 | 58,835 |
| | Prov. Crim Adult Hours (inc. traff.) | 70,372 | 69,854 | 70,709 | 76,534 | 79,319 | 84,174 | 83,842 | 80,143 |
| | Prov. Crim Youth Hours | 11,333 | 11,090 | 11,148 | 10,910 | 11,663 | 10,412 | 8,594 | 7,700 |
| | Prov. Civil Family Hours | 10,087 | 10,978 | 13,476 | 15,821 | 17,557 | 19,031 | 19,200 | 19,004 |
| | Prov. Civil Small Claim Hours | 17,059 | 19,750 | 17,802 | 17,295 | 16,817 | 17,857 | 16,709 | 15,634 |
| | Total Provincial Court Hours | 108,851 | 111,672 | 113,241 | 120,693 | 125,356 | 131,475 | 128,346 | 122,480 |

| | Court Level and Division | Fiscal Year 1994/95 | 1995/96 | 1996/97 | 1997/98 | 1998/99 | 1999/00 | 2000/01 | 2001/02 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| New Cases | Appeal Criminal New Cases | 655 | 549 | 509 | 574 | 523 | 446 | 492 | 461 |
| | Appeal Civil New Cases | 1,260 | 1,188 | 1,123 | 1,118 | 971 | 1,029 | 877 | 1,005 |
| | Total Appeal Court New Cases | 1,915 | 1,737 | 1,632 | 1,692 | 1,494 | 1,475 | 1,369 | 1,466 |
| | Supreme Criminal New Cases | 4,974 | 4,711 | 4,356 | 4,096 | 5,291 | 5,146 | 5,151 | 4,958 |
| | Supreme Civil New Cases | 68,373 | 69,732 | 71,688 | 64,560 | 65,330 | 68,574 | 66,951 | 67,206 |
| | Total Supreme Court New Cases | 73,347 | 74,443 | 76,044 | 68,656 | 70,621 | 73,720 | 72,102 | 72,164 |
| | Prov. Crim Adult New Cases | 105,583 | 109,758 | 107,236 | 112,316 | 110,161 | 105,983 | 102,311 | 106,499 |
| | Prov. Crim Youth New Cases | 19,940 | 20,937 | 18,938 | 19,308 | 18,258 | 17,370 | 15,448 | 15,076 |
| | Prov. Crim New Traffic Cases | 56,119 | 50,984 | 57,725 | 56,813 | 70,164 | 70,267 | 78,530 | 100,885 |
| | Prov. Crim New Bylaw Cases | 13,445 | 13,596 | 15,495 | 17,731 | 23,839 | 24,623 | 28,542 | 31,231 |
| | Prov. Civil Fam New Cases/Apps | 18,024 | 20,644 | 23,305 | 23,959 | 25,854 | 28,623 | 33,772 | 33,873 |
| | Prov. Civil Small Clm New Cases | 38,218 | 39,678 | 34,800 | 33,598 | 29,056 | 28,556 | 26,152 | 24,762 |
| | Total Provincial Crt New Cases | 251,329 | 255,597 | 257,499 | 263,725 | 277,332 | 275,422 | 284,755 | 312,326 |

| | Court Level and Division | Fiscal Year 1994/95 | 1995/96 | 1996/97 | 1997/98 | 1998/99 | 1999/00 | 2000/01 | 2001/02 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Total | Grand Total Court Hours | 176,001 | 181,518 | 183,969 | 189,206 | 194,477 | 197,283 | 191,836 | 183,778 |
| | Grand Total New Cases | 326,591 | 331,777 | 335,175 | 334,073 | 349,447 | 350,617 | 358,226 | 385,956 |

Data Source: Court Services Branch EIS, CORIN and CSS Databases

Note 2001/02 figures are preliminary and subject to change.

## British Columbia Provincial Court New Cases by Court Division and Case Type 1993/94 to 2001/02

| Fiscal Year | Adult Criminal New Cases[1] | New Motor Vehicle Cases | New Municipal Bylaw Cases | Youth New Cases | Family New Cases - FRA/FMEA[2,3] | Family New Cases - FCSA/ CFCSA[2,4] | Small Claim New Cases[5] |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1993/94 | 101,532 | 49,682 | 15,163 | 19,575 | 14,830 | 3,465 | 39,277 |
| 1994/95 | 105,583 | 56,119 | 13,445 | 19,940 | 11,082 | 2,574 | 38,218 |
| 1995/96[6] | 109,758 | 50,984 | 13,596 | 20,937 | 11,365 | 2,173 | 39,678 |
| 1996/97[6] | 107,236 | 57,725 | 15,495 | 18,938 | 11,970 | 2,161 | 34,800 |
| 1997/98 | 112,316 | 56,813 | 17,731 | 19,308 | 11,749 | 2,634 | 33,598 |
| 1998/99 | 110,161 | 70,164 | 23,839 | 18,258 | 12,118 | 2,987 | 29,056 |
| 1999/00 | 105,983 | 70,267 | 24,623 | 17,370 | 12,968 | 3,114 | 28,556 |
| 2000/01 | 102,311 | 78,530 | 28,542 | 15,448 | 12,904 | 2,900 | 26,152 |
| 2001/02 | 106,499 | 100,885 | 31,231 | 15,076 | 12,641 | 2,774 | 24,762 |

Data Source: Court Services Branch CORIN and CSS Databases

Note 2001/02 figures are preliminary and subject to change.

[1] Excludes known Provincial Motor Vehicle and Municipal Bylaw cases.

[2] As of August, 1994, Family Court Subsequent Applications no longer counted as new cases. Also, there has been reporting problems with certain locations resulting in an undercounting of new cases.

[3] *Family Relations Act* (FRA) and *Family Maintenance Enforcement Act* (FMEA) new cases.

[4] *Family Child Services Act* (FCSA) and *Child, Family Community Service Act* (CFCSA, proclaimed January, 1996) new cases.

[5] In May, 1993, a Small Claims differential fee structure was introduced.

[6] Adult new cases for 1995/96 and 1996/97 reflect the addition of an estimated number of cases to account for the file number recycling problem in Vancouver Provincial Court (1,728 and 6,607 respectively).

## Adult Criminal and Youth New and Completed Cases by Type 1996/97 to 2001/02

**Adult Criminal**

*Number of New Cases by Case Type*

| Type | 1996/97* | 1997/98 | 1998/99 | 1999/00 | 2000/01 | 2001/02 | 01-02 % Chg |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Person CCC | 25,176 | 25,652 | 24,043 | 22,313 | 21,350 | 22,076 | 3.4% |
| Property CCC | 29,762 | 30,637 | 29,321 | 27,439 | 24,493 | 24,586 | 0.4% |
| Other CCC | 34,331 | 37,832 | 37,510 | 34,984 | 36,248 | 38,801 | 7.0% |
| Unknown CCC | 3,726 | 3,969 | 4,096 | 4,925 | 4,904 | 5,010 | 2.2% |
| Other Federal | 11,564 | 11,624 | 12,039 | 13,357 | 12,700 | 13,369 | 5.3% |
| Prov. Statutes | 2,297 | 2,347 | 2,842 | 2,756 | 2,457 | 2,599 | 5.8% |
| Unknown | 380 | 255 | 310 | 209 | 159 | 58 | -63.5% |
| Total Cases | 107,236 | 112,316 | 110,161 | 105,983 | 102,311 | 106,499 | 4.1% |

*Number of Completed Cases by Case Type***

| Type | 1996/97 | 1997/98 | 1998/99 | 1999/00 | 2000/01 | 2001/02 | 01-02 % Chg |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Person CCC | 25,240 | 24,369 | 23,846 | 23,775 | 22,065 | 21,751 | -1.4% |
| Property CCC | 28,802 | 29,028 | 28,851 | 28,390 | 25,940 | 25,706 | -0.9% |
| Other CCC | 31,880 | 35,051 | 37,214 | 36,061 | 37,769 | 39,547 | 4.7% |
| Unknown CCC | 3,425 | 3,811 | 3,961 | 4,916 | 4,861 | 5,034 | 3.6% |
| Other Federal | 11,462 | 10,676 | 10,980 | 12,264 | 12,934 | 13,241 | 2.4% |
| Prov. Statutes | 2,075 | 2,093 | 2,531 | 2,815 | 2,602 | 2,464 | -5.3% |
| Unknown | 168 | 228 | 267 | 241 | 176 | 65 | -63.1% |
| Total Cases | 103,052 | 105,256 | 107,650 | 108,462 | 106,347 | 107,808 | 1.4% |

**Youth**

*Number of New Cases by Case Type*

| Type | 1996/97 | 1997/98 | 1998/99 | 1999/00 | 2000/01 | 2001/02 | 01-02 % Chg |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Person CCC | 2,977 | 3,068 | 2,614 | 2,527 | 2,228 | 2,126 | -4.6% |
| Property CCC | 7,468 | 6,920 | 6,139 | 5,274 | 4,258 | 3,965 | -6.9% |
| Other CCC | 3,549 | 4,012 | 3,778 | 3,481 | 3,766 | 4,039 | 7.2% |
| Unknown CCC | 503 | 610 | 562 | 618 | 556 | 543 | -2.3% |
| Other Federal | 4,270 | 4,543 | 5,035 | 5,316 | 4,529 | 4,310 | -4.8% |
| Prov. Statutes | 159 | 137 | 107 | 138 | 95 | 90 | -5.3% |
| Unknown | 12 | 18 | 23 | 16 | 16 | 3 | -81.3% |
| Total Cases | 18,938 | 19,308 | 18,258 | 17,370 | 15,448 | 15,076 | -2.4% |

*Number of Completed Cases by Case Type***

| Type | 1996/97 | 1997/98 | 1998/99 | 1999/00 | 2000/01 | 2001/02 | 01-02 % Chg |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Person CCC | 2,968 | 2,826 | 2,774 | 2,634 | 2,275 | 2,281 | 0.3% |
| Property CCC | 7,477 | 6,515 | 6,201 | 5,624 | 4,544 | 4,140 | -8.9% |
| Other CCC | 3,559 | 3,707 | 3,709 | 3,693 | 3,916 | 4,067 | 3.9% |
| Unknown CCC | 535 | 546 | 542 | 636 | 518 | 593 | 14.5% |
| Other Federal | 4,341 | 4,314 | 4,898 | 5,338 | 4,746 | 4,383 | -7.6% |
| Prov. Statutes | 158 | 128 | 117 | 9 | 11 | 15 | 36.4% |
| Unknown | 9 | 19 | 20 | 18 | 15 | 5 | -66.7% |
| Total Cases | 19,047 | 18,055 | 18,261 | 17,952 | 16,025 | 15,484 | -3.4% |

Data Source: Court Services Branch CORIN Database

Note 2001/02 figures are preliminary and subject to change.

* Adult new cases for 1996/97 reflect the addition of an estimated number of cases to account for the file numbering problem in Vancouver Provincial Court.

## Provincial Court Sitting Hours by Adjudicator Type and Court Type
## 1995/96 to 2001/02

***Court Hours for Provincial Court Judges (includes Unknown Adjudicator Types)***

| Court Type | 1995/96 | 1996/97* | 1997/98* | 1998/99 | 1999/00 | 2000/01 | 2001/02 | 01-02 % Chg |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| FRA/FMEA | 7,009 | 7,817 | 8,821 | 9,782 | 10,313 | 11,048 | 11,274 | 2.1% |
| FCS/CFCSA | 3,885 | 5,546 | 6,847 | 7,592 | 8,615 | 8,065 | 7,757 | -3.8% |
| Family Total | 10,893 | 13,363 | 15,668 | 17,375 | 18,928 | 19,113 | 19,032 | -0.4% |
| Small Claims | 18,558 | 16,631 | 16,055 | 15,695 | 17,018 | 15,642 | 14,659 | -6.3% |
| Adult Criminal** | 62,385 | 61,426 | 62,649 | 63,293 | 65,499 | 64,211 | 61,855 | -3.7% |
| Youth | 10,973 | 11,048 | 10,882 | 11,307 | 9,880 | 7,968 | 7,129 | -10.5% |
| Total Hours | 102,809 | 102,468 | 105,255 | 107,670 | 111,326 | 106,933 | 102,675 | -4.0% |

***Court Hours for Judicial Justices of the Peace (Formerly Sitting Justices of the Peace)****

| Court Type | 1995/96 | 1996/97 | 1997/98 | 1998/99 | 1999/00 | 2000/01 | 2001/02 | 01-02 % Chg |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| FRA/FMEA | 3 | 1 | 16 | 13 | 0 | 1 | 3 | 125.0% |
| FCS/CFCSA | 3 | 5 | 6 | 8 | 6 | 9 | 1 | -88.3% |
| Family Total | 5 | 7 | 21 | 21 | 6 | 10 | 4 | -59.7% |
| Small Claims | 7 | 371 | 763 | 491 | 528 | 802 | 781 | -2.5% |
| Adult Criminal** | 7,087 | 8,029 | 11,944 | 13,520 | 13,010 | 11,789 | 11,330 | -3.9% |
| Youth | 13 | 24 | 85 | 81 | 74 | 3 | 2 | -41.7% |
| Total Hours | 7,112 | 8,431 | 12,813 | 14,112 | 13,617 | 12,604 | 12,117 | -3.9% |

***Court Hours for Judicial Case Managers (Formerly Trial Co-ordinators)***

| Court Type | 1995/96 | 1996/97 | 1997/98 | 1998/99 | 1999/00 | 2000/01 | 2001/02 | 01-02 % Chg |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| FRA/FMEA | - | - | - | - | 1 | 3 | 6 | 127.3% |
| FCS/CFCSA | - | - | - | - | 1 | 2 | 3 | 62.5% |
| Family Total | - | - | - | - | 3 | 5 | 10 | 100.0% |
| Small Claims | - | - | - | - | 0 | 3 | 0 | -91.7% |
| Adult Criminal** | - | - | - | - | 1,574 | 4,215 | 3,991 | -5.3% |
| Youth | - | - | - | - | 164 | 226 | 234 | 3.8% |
| Total Hours | - | - | - | - | 1,742 | 4,449 | 4,235 | -4.8% |

***Court Hours for All Adjudicator Types***

| Court Type | 1995/96 | 1996/97* | 1997/98* | 1998/99 | 1999/00 | 2000/01 | 2001/02 | 01-02 % Chg |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| FRA/FMEA | 7,011 | 7,818 | 8,837 | 9,795 | 10,315 | 11,052 | 11,284 | 2.1% |
| FCS/CFCSA | 3,887 | 5,551 | 6,853 | 7,600 | 8,622 | 8,076 | 7,762 | -3.9% |
| Family Total | 10,899 | 13,370 | 15,689 | 17,395 | 18,937 | 19,127 | 19,045 | -0.4% |
| Small Claims | 18,565 | 17,002 | 16,818 | 16,186 | 17,546 | 16,447 | 15,441 | -6.1% |
| Adult Criminal** | 69,472 | 69,455 | 74,593 | 76,813 | 80,084 | 80,215 | 77,176 | -3.8% |
| Youth | 10,986 | 11,072 | 10,967 | 11,388 | 10,118 | 8,196 | 7,365 | -10.1% |
| Total Hours | 109,922 | 110,899 | 118,067 | 121,782 | 126,685 | 123,986 | 119,027 | -4.0% |

Data Source: Court Services Branch CORIN and CSS Databases

Note 2001/02 figures are preliminary and subject to change.

* Court hours for 1996/97 and 1997/98 include an estimate for Kelowna Adult Criminal and Youth hours.

** Adult Criminal includes Traffic Court.

*** Justice of the Peace hours include only Sitting JP hours, and not Court Services or Schedule 3 JPs.

## Adult Criminal and Youth Cases with Future Scheduled Appearances*
## March, 1996 - March, 2002

### Adult Criminal and Youth Pending Cases

**Adult Criminal**

*Cases with Future Appearances*

| Month | Total Cases Pending | % Change From Prev. Year |
|---|---|---|
| 31-Mar-96 | 22,926 | --- |
| 31-Mar-97 | 26,228 | 14.4% |
| 31-Mar-98 | 30,064 | 14.6% |
| 31-Mar-99 | 29,823 | -0.8% |
| 31-Mar-00 | 25,892 | -13.2% |
| 31-Mar-01 | 22,293 | -13.9% |
| 31-Mar-02 | 23,965 | 7.5% |

**Youth**

*Cases with Future Appearances*

| Month | Total Cases Pending | % Change From Prev. Year |
|---|---|---|
| 31-Mar-96 | 3,725 | --- |
| 31-Mar-97 | 3,738 | 0.3% |
| 31-Mar-98 | 4,210 | 12.6% |
| 31-Mar-99 | 3,526 | -16.2% |
| 31-Mar-00 | 2,824 | -19.9% |
| 31-Mar-01 | 2,474 | -12.4% |
| 31-Mar-02 | 2,371 | -4.2% |

Data Source: Court Services Branch CORIN Database

### Percentage of Adult Criminal and Youth Pending Cases >240 Days Old

**Adult Criminal**

*Cases with Future Appearances*

| Month | % Cases Pending >240 Days | % Change From Prev. Year |
|---|---|---|
| 31-Mar-96 | 36.8% | --- |
| 31-Mar-97 | 41.1% | 11.6% |
| 31-Mar-98 | 50.0% | 21.7% |
| 31-Mar-99 | 47.3% | -5.3% |
| 31-Mar-00 | 34.6% | -27.0% |
| 31-Mar-01 | 36.2% | 4.7% |
| 31-Mar-02 | 37.4% | 3.4% |

**Youth**

*Cases with Future Appearances*

| Month | % Cases Pending >240 Days | % Change From Prev. Year |
|---|---|---|
| 31-Mar-96 | 22.5% | --- |
| 31-Mar-97 | 26.9% | 19.5% |
| 31-Mar-98 | 28.9% | 7.5% |
| 31-Mar-99 | 26.9% | -6.7% |
| 31-Mar-00 | 18.9% | -29.7% |
| 31-Mar-01 | 17.3% | -8.9% |
| 31-Mar-02 | 12.2% | -29.4% |

Data Source: Court Services Branch CORIN Database

Note 2001/02 figures are preliminary and subject to change.

* Does not include Provincial Motor Vehicle and Municipal Bylaw cases.

Note: Cases with future scheduled appearances (pending cases) are cases for which the future appearance is set for any reason, including first appearance, plea, judicial interim release, trial, etc. Bench warrant time periods excluded from case age.

## Provincial Adult Criminal and Youth Court Appearances per Completed Case* 1992/93 to 2001/02

**Adult Criminal**

| Year | Number of Appearances** | Number of Completed Cases | Average Number of Appearances per Case | % Change from Previous Year |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1992/93 | 320,742 | 85,956 | 3.73 | ---- |
| 1993/94 | 362,999 | 94,261 | 3.85 | 3.2% |
| 1994/95 | 422,309 | 103,049 | 4.10 | 6.4% |
| 1995/96 | 451,840 | 108,095 | 4.18 | 2.0% |
| 1996/97 | 527,739 | 104,421 | 5.05 | 20.9% |
| 1997/98 | 547,584 | 105,256 | 5.20 | 2.9% |
| 1998/99 | 578,486 | 107,650 | 5.37 | 3.3% |
| 1999/00 | 594,544 | 108,462 | 5.48 | 2.0% |
| 2000/01 | 612,015 | 106,347 | 5.75 | 5.0% |
| 2001/02 | 610,036 | 107,808 | 5.66 | -1.7% |

**Youth**

| Year | Number of Appearances** | Number of Completed Cases | Average Number of Appearances per Case | % Change from Previous Year |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1992/93 | 63,434 | 18,338 | 3.46 | ---- |
| 1993/94 | 65,687 | 18,553 | 3.54 | 2.4% |
| 1994/95 | 69,843 | 19,126 | 3.65 | 3.1% |
| 1995/96 | 74,352 | 20,098 | 3.70 | 1.3% |
| 1996/97 | 82,165 | 19,086 | 4.30 | 16.4% |
| 1997/98 | 83,616 | 18,055 | 4.63 | 7.6% |
| 1998/99 | 88,042 | 18,261 | 4.82 | 4.1% |
| 1999/00 | 85,429 | 17,952 | 4.76 | -1.3% |
| 2000/01 | 79,258 | 16,025 | 4.95 | 3.9% |
| 2001/02 | 76,575 | 15,484 | 4.95 | 0.0% |

Data Source: Court Services Branch CORIN Database

Note 2001/02 figures are preliminary and subject to change.

* Excludes Provincial Motor Vehicle and Municipal Bylaw cases.

** Appearances may be for Provincial Motor Vehicle counts if included on a Adult Criminal or Youth case.

Note: appearances may have occurred in years previous to the year in which the case was completed. The number of appearances were counted for all of the counts/charges associated with the case. Therefore, if the accused appeared on one charge five times and another charge six times, the count of the number of appearances for that case would be six appearances since the accused appeared a total of six times in relation to the case.